(e) Indian Railway, through Research Development and Standard Organization (RDSO) issues list of signalling items and develop vendors for the same.

Any manufacturer can approach RDSO for approval to supply signalling items as per RDSO specifications.

Electrification of rail lines in Tamil Nadu

128. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that very less extent of railway lines in the State of Tamil Nadu have been electrified, so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of lengths and the percentage of railway lines electrified, so far, State-wise;

(d) whether Railways propose to electrify railway lines in the State of Tamil Nadu; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) 25.02% of rail lines in the state of Tamil Nadu are electrified. This will increase with additional lines being electrified in immediate future.

(c) State-wise percentage of electrified rail lines is as under:

Sl. No.	State	Total route kilometres	Electrified Route	%age of Electrified route kilometres
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5171	2310	44.67%
2.	Bihar	3411	723	21.20%
3.	Chhattisgarh	1186	861	72.60%
4.	Delhi	182	129	70.88%
5.	Gujarat	5309	723	13.62%
6.	Haryana	1540	366	23.77%
7.	Himachal Pradesh	285	23	8.07%
8.	Jharkhand	1942	1585	81.62%
9.	Karnataka	3006	114	3.79%
10.	Kerala	1050	519	49.43%
11.	Madhya Praddesh	4884	1900	38.90%

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Maharashtra	5520	2059	37.30%
13.	Orissa	2247	1285	57.19%
14.	Punjab	2133	385	18.05%
15.	Pondicherry	11	11	100.00%
16.	Rajasthan	5911	522	8.83%
17.	Tamil Nadu	4121	1031	25.02%
18.	Uttar Pradesh	8575	1656	19.31%
19.	Uttarakhand	345	52	15.07%
20.	West Bengal	3911	1891	48.35%
21.	Other States	2587	0	0.00%
	Total	63327	18145	28.65%

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Electrification work on Villupuram-Tiruchchirappalli-Madurai (332 RKM) rail line is in progress and targeted for completion by March, 2010. Electrification work on Kulitturai-Kanniyakumari (57 RKM) which is a part of Trivendrum-Kanniyakumari section is in progress and targeted for completion by September, 2009.

Assistance by Railways for development of rail link in Iran

129. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Iran has invited Indian companies like RITES, IRCON and CONCOR to bid for developing a 600 kilometre long railway link between Chabahar and Fahraj;

(b) if so, whether the link when completed would provide India a multi-modal transport corridor with Russia *via* Iran, bypassing Pakistan under UNRSCAP's ambitious Trans Asian railway project;

(c) if so, whether Indian Railways have also provided help and assistance in implementing this project;

(d) by when final decision in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(e) if so, to what extent it would be helpful both for Iran and India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Bureau of Economic Studies and Investment Affairs, Deputy for Transport Economy, Ministry of Roads and Transport